CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method of monitoring protocol response codes for a server application, the method comprising:

(a)   monitoring protocol response codes in communication data between a server application and a client during a session;

(b)   determining a number of protocol response codes during the session; and

(c)   comparing the number of protocol response codes to a predetermined number.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server application.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the protocol response codes comprise response code errors.

10.   The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

11.   The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

12.   The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises determining whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

13.   The method of claim 12, comprising selectively generating an alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

14.   A system for monitoring protocol response codes for a server application, the system comprising:

(a)   a network interface operable to monitor communication data between a server application and a client during a session; and

(b)   a detector operable to determine a number of protocol response codes during the session, and operable to compare the number of protocol response codes to a predetermined number.

5   15.   The system of claim 14, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

10   16.   The system of claim 14, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access

15   protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

17.   The system of claim 14, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server

20   application.

18.   The system of claim 14, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

25   19.   The system of claim 14, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

20.   The system of claim 14, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

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21. The system of claim 14, wherein the protocol response codes comprise response code errors.

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22. The system of claim 14, wherein the detector is operable to determine the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

23. The system of claim 14, wherein the detector is operable to determine the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

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24. The system of claim 14, wherein the detector is operable to determine whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

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25. The system of claim 24, wherein the detector is operable to selectively generate an alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

26. A computer program product comprising computer-executable

20   instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

    (a)   monitoring protocol response codes in communication data between a server application and a client during a session;

    (b)   determining a number of protocol response codes during the

25   session; and

    (c)   comparing the number of protocol response codes to a predetermined number.

27. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein steps (a) –

30   (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

28.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

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29.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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30.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server application.

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31.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

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32.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

33.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

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34.   The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the protocol response codes comprise response code errors.

35. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

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36. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

37. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein step (c)
10 comprises determining whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

38. The computer program product of claim 37, comprising selectively generating an alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the
15 predetermined number.

39. A method of monitoring protocol response codes for a server application, the method comprising:

    (a)   monitoring protocol response codes in communication data
20   between a server application and a client associated with server data;

    (b)   determining a number of protocol response codes for the server data; and

    (c)   comparing the number of protocol response codes to a
25   predetermined number.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

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41. The method of claim 39, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

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42. The method of claim 39, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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43. The method of claim 39, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server application.

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44. The method of claim 39, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

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45. The method of claim 39, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

46. The method of claim 39, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

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47. The method of claim 39, wherein the protocol response codes comprise response code errors.

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48. The method of claim 39, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

49. The method of claim 39, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

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50. The method of claim 39, wherein step (c) comprises determining whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

51. The method of claim 50, comprising selectively generating an
10 alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

52. A system for monitoring protocol response codes for a server application, the method comprising:
15 (a)   a network interface operable to monitor communication data between a server application and a client during a session; and

(b)   a detector operable to determine a number of protocol response codes for the server data, and operable to compare the number of protocol response codes to a predetermined number.

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53. The system of claim 52, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

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54. The system of claim 52, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless
30 application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access

protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

55.   The system of claim 52, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server application.

56.   The system of claim 52, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

57.   The system of claim 52, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

58.   The system of claim 52, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

59.   The system of claim 52, wherein the protocol response codes comprise response code errors.

60.   The system of claim 52, wherein the detector is operable to determine the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

61.   The system of claim 52, wherein the detector is operable to determine the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

62.   The system of claim 52, wherein the detector is operable to determine whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

63. The system of claim 62, wherein the detector is operable to selectively generate an alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

5   64. A computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

(a)   monitoring protocol response codes in communication data between a server application and a client associated with server
10   data;

(b)   determining a number of protocol response codes for the server data; and

(c)   comparing the number of protocol response codes to a predetermined number.

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65. The computer program product of claim 64, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

20   66. The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

25   67. The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access
30   protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

68.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the communication data can comprise HTTP requests from the client and HTTP responses from the server application.

5   69.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

70.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

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71.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the protocol response codes is a predetermined response code type.

72.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein the protocol
15   response codes comprise response code errors.

73.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a unique session.

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74.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein step (b) comprises determining the number of protocol response codes for a predetermined plurality of sessions.

25   75.   The computer program product of claim 64, wherein step (c) comprises determining whether the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

76.   The computer program product of claim 75, comprising selectively
30   generating an alert if the number of protocol response codes exceeds the predetermined number.

77.   A method of monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the method comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

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(b)   monitoring errors in the application protocol; and

(c)   comparing the errors in the application protocol to a predetermined criteria.

78.   The method of claim 77, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed

10   transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

79.   The method of claim 77, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global

15   communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

80.   The method of claim 77, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of

20   hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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81.   The method of claim 77, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

82.   The method of claim 77, wherein the communication data

30   comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

83.   The method of claim 77, wherein the errors comprise malformed protocol requests.

84.   The method of claim 77, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

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85.   The method of claim 77, wherein the errors comprise parsing errors.

86.   The method of claim 85, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

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87.   The method of claim 77, wherein the errors comprise buffer overflows within the application protocol.

88.   The method of claim 87, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

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89.   The method of claim 77, wherein step (c) comprises determining whether the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

90.   The method of claim 77, comprising selectively generating an

20   alert if the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

91.   A system for monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the system comprising:

(a)   a network interface operable to monitor communication data

25   between a server application and a client during a session; and

(b)   a detector operable to monitor errors in the application protocol, and operable to compare the errors in the application protocol to a predetermined criteria.

30   92.   The system of claim 91, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global

communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

93.   The system of claim 91, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

94.   The system of claim 91, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

95.   The system of claim 91, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

96.   The system of claim 91, wherein the errors comprise malformed protocol requests.

97.   The system of claim 91, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

98.   The system of claim 91, wherein the errors comprise parsing errors.

99.   The system of claim 98, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

100.   The system of claim 91, wherein the errors comprise buffer overflows within the application protocol.

101. The system of claim 100, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

102. The system of claim 91, wherein step (c) comprises determining
5   whether the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

103. The system of claim 91, comprising selectively generating an alert if the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

10   104. A computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

15   (b)   monitoring errors in the application protocol; and

(c)   comparing the errors in the application protocol to a predetermined criteria.

105. The computer program product of claim 104, wherein steps (a) –
20   (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

106. The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group
25   consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

107. The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group
30   consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols,

wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

5   108.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

109.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

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110.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the errors comprise malformed protocol requests.

111.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the 15   application protocol is HTTP.

112.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the errors comprise parsing errors.

20   113.   The computer program product of claim 112, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

114.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein the errors comprise buffer overflows within the application protocol.

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115.   The computer program product of claim 114, wherein the application protocol is HTTP.

116.   The computer program product of claim 104, wherein step (c) 30   comprises determining whether the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

117.   The computer program product of claim 104, comprising selectively generating an alert if the errors in the application protocol match the predetermined criteria.

5   118.   A method of monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the method comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b)   detecting a first protocol method utilized by the application
10   protocol; and

(c)   comparing the first protocol method to a predetermined protocol method.

119.   The method of claim 118, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed
15   transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

120.   The method of claim 118, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global
20   communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

121.   The method of claim 118, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of
25   hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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122. The method of claim 118, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

123. The method of claim 118, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

124. The method of claim 118, wherein the communication method is a first encryption strength.

125. The method of claim 124, wherein the first encryption strength is about 40 bit encryption.

126. The method of claim 124, wherein the predetermined method is a second encryption strength.

127. The method of claim 126, comprising determining whether the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength.

128. The method of claim 127, comprising generating an alarm if the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength

129. The method of claim 126, wherein the second encryption strength is 128 bit encryption.

130. A system for monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the system comprising:

 (a) a network interface operable to monitor communication data between a server application and a client during a session; and

 (b) a detector operable to detect a first protocol method utilized by the application protocol, and operable to compare the first protocol method to a predetermined protocol method.

131.   The system of claim 130, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

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132.   The system of claim 130, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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133.   The system of claim 130, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

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134.   The system of claim 130, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

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135.   The system of claim 130, wherein the communication method is a first encryption strength.

136.   The system of claim 135, wherein the first encryption strength is about 40 bit encryption.

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137.   The system of claim 130, wherein the predetermined method is a second encryption strength.

138.   The system of claim 137, wherein the detector is operable to determine whether the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength.

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139.   The system of claim 138, wherein the detector is operable to generate an alarm if the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength.

5   140.   The system of claim 137, wherein the second encryption strength is 128 bit encryption.

141.   A computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps

10   comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b)   detecting a first protocol method utilized by the application protocol; and

15   (c)   comparing the first protocol method to a predetermined protocol method.

142.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server

20   application and the client.

143.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local

25   area network, and a wireless network.

144.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web

30   distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access

protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

145.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

146.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

147.   The computer program product of claim 141, wherein the communication method is a first encryption strength.

148.   The computer program product of claim 147, wherein the first encryption strength is about 40 bit encryption.

149.   The computer program product of claim 147, wherein the predetermined method is a second encryption strength.

150.   The computer program product of claim 149, comprising determining whether the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength.

151.   The computer program product of claim 150, comprising generating an alarm if the second encryption strength is greater than the first encryption strength

152.   The computer program product of claim 149, wherein the second encryption strength is 128 bit encryption.

153.   A method of monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the method comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b)   detecting a first protocol version of the application protocol; and

(c)   comparing the first version to a predetermined protocol version.

154.   The method of claim 153, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

155.   The method of claim 153, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

156.   The method of claim 153, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

157.   The method of claim 153, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

158.   The method of claim 153, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

159.   The method of claim 153, wherein the application protocol is secure socket layer (SSL).

160. The method of claim 159, wherein the first protocol version is SSL version 2.0.

161. The method of claim 160, wherein the predetermined protocol
5 version is SSL version 3.0.

162. The method of claim 153, comprising determining whether the first protocol version matches the predetermined protocol version.

10 163. The method of claim 162, if the first protocol version does not match the second protocol version, generating an alert.

164. A system for monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the system comprising:
15 (a) a network interface operable to monitor communication data between a server application and a client during a session; and
(b) a detector operable to detect a first protocol version of the application protocol, and operable to compare the first version to a predetermined protocol version.
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165. The system of claim 164, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.
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166. The system of claim 164, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless
30 application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access

protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

167.   The system of claim 164, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

168.   The system of claim 164, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

169.   The system of claim 164, wherein the application protocol is secure socket layer (SSL).

170.   The system of claim 169, wherein the first protocol version is SSL version 2.0.

171.   The system of claim 170, wherein the predetermined protocol version is SSL version 3.0.

172.   The system of claim 164, wherein the detector is operable to determine whether the first protocol version matches the predetermined protocol version.

173.   The system of claim 172, wherein the detector is operable to generate an alert if the first protocol version does not match the second protocol version.

174.   A computer program product comprising computer-executable instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

   (a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b)   detecting a first protocol version of the application protocol; and

(c)   comparing the first version to a predetermined protocol version.

175.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein steps (a) –
(c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server
application and the client.

176.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein the
communication data is communication over a network selected from the group
consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local
area network, and a wireless network.

177.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein the
communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group
consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web
distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols,
wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access
protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer
protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

178.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein the server
application is implemented by a web server.

179.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein the
communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

180.   The computer program product of claim 174, wherein the
application protocol is secure socket layer (SSL).

181.   The computer program product of claim 180, wherein the first
protocol version is SSL version 2.0.

182. The computer program product of claim 181, wherein the predetermined protocol version is SSL version 3.0.

183. The computer program product of claim 174, comprising determining whether the first protocol version matches the predetermined protocol version.

184. The computer program product of claim 183, if the first protocol version does not match the second protocol version, generating an alert.

185. A method of monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the method comprising:

(a)   monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b)   determining whether the application protocol is a valid protocol for the server application; and

(c)   if the application protocol is not valid, generating an alert.

186. The method of claim 185, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server application and the client.

187. The method of claim 185, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

188. The method of claim 185, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless

application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

5   189.   The method of claim 185, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

       190.   The method of claim 185, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

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       191.   The method of claim 185, wherein the application protocol is a non-secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

       192.   The method of claim 191, wherein the server application receives

15   the application protocol at an HTTPS port.

       193.   A system for monitoring an application protocol for a server application, the system comprising:

       (a)   a network interface operable to monitor communication data

20   between a server application and a client during a session; and

       (b)   a detector operable to determine whether the application protocol
             is a valid protocol for the server application, and operable to
             generate an alert if the application protocol is not valid.

25   194.   The system of claim 193, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

30   195.   The system of claim 193, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of

hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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196. The system of claim 193, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

10   197. The system of claim 193, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

198. The system of claim 193, wherein the application protocol is a non-secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

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199. The system of claim 198, wherein the server application receives the application protocol at an HTTPS port.

200. A computer program product comprising computer-executable
20   instructions embodied in a computer-readable medium for performing steps comprising:

(a) monitoring an application protocol in communication data between a server application and a client;

(b) determining whether the application protocol is a valid protocol
25   for the server application; and

(c) if the application protocol is not valid, generating an alert.

201. The computer program product of claim 200, wherein steps (a) – (c) are performed transparent to the communication of data between the server
30   application and the client.

202.   The computer program product of claim 200, wherein the communication data is communication over a network selected from the group consisting of a global communication network, a wide area network, a local area network, and a wireless network.

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203.   The computer program product of claim 200, wherein the communication data comprises an application protocol selected from the group consisting of hypertext transfer protocols, simple object access protocols, web distributed authoring and versioning protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, wireless application protocols, file transfer protocols, Internet message access protocols, post office protocols, web services protocols, simple mail transfer protocols, structured hypertext transfer protocols, and web-mail protocols.

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204.   The computer program product of claim 200, wherein the server application is implemented by a web server.

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205.   The computer program product of claim 200, wherein the communication data comprises only transmission control protocol packets.

20   206.   The computer program product of claim 200, wherein the application protocol is a non-secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

207.   The computer program product of claim 206, wherein the server application receives the application protocol at an HTTPS port.

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